

DURHAM BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Resolution

MARYANN E. BLACK

- WHEREAS,** MaryAnn Black, an esteemed public servant who served the people of Durham and the State of North Carolina, made her transition on March 25, 2020; and
- WHEREAS,** she was born in Manhattan, New York and raised in Florence, South Carolina where she was educated in Florence Public Schools, graduating from the Wilson High School; and
- WHEREAS,** MaryAnn continued her formal education at Benedict College in Columbia, SC where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in English and later received her master's degree in social work from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; and
- WHEREAS,** upon completing her education, she moved to Durham where she worked for more than thirty years as a clinical social worker providing psychotherapy services to children and their families; and
- WHEREAS,** she was elected as a member of the Durham Board of County Commissioners serving from 1990 until 2002 and was chair from 1996 until 2002; and
- WHEREAS,** MaryAnn Black was chosen to serve as Associate Vice President for Community Relations for the Duke University Health System where she worked dynamically to address healthcare disparities; and
- WHEREAS,** in 2017, she was appointed to the North Carolina General Assembly as a member of the House of Representatives, where she faithfully served the citizens of District 29 with honor and distinction working on key committees including Aging, Appropriations, Health and Human Services to name a few; and
- WHEREAS,** MaryAnn was the recipient of many awards and recognitions including "Social Worker of the Year" by the State of North Carolina and the National Association of Social Workers in 1994; Greater Durham Chamber of Commerce Circle of Influence Diversity Award in 2005; Women-In-Action Elna B. Spaulding Founders Award, and Woman of the Year Award for 2020 from the Greater Durham Black Chamber of Commerce; and
- WHEREAS,** civic engagement was so important to her and MaryAnn was firmly engaged in the affairs of her community, serving as president of the Durham Downtown Rotary and as the first female chair of the Greater Durham Chamber of Commerce Board; and
- WHEREAS,** we pause to honor this insightful and dedicated public servant and civic champion who will always be remembered for her genuine compassion and love of others.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the members of the Durham County Board of Commissioners, do hereby resolve to pay tribute to

MARYANN E. BLACK

For a life of distinguished public service. We call upon all citizens of Durham County to remember this phenomenal woman who steadfastly worked to improve the quality of life and health for all.

This the 10th day of August 2020.

Wendy Jacobs, Chair

James Hill, Jr., Vice-Chair

Heidi Carter, Commissioner

Brenda A. Howerton, Commissioner

Ellen Reckhow, Commissioner

